

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 00145 090553Z

15

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 USIA-12 /024 W

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R 090543Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2301

LIMITED\*OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 0145

FOR CU/ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARDSON FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, AS\*SUBJ: FY 1974 CU ALLOCATION

REF: (A) STATE 000947; (B) CANBERRA 0084

1. I AM DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED BY NEWS (REF A) THAT INTERNATIONAL VISITORS' PROGRAM FOR AUSTRALIA MAY BE REDUCED FROM LAST YEAR'S \$33,500 AND TWELVE AUSTRALIAN GRANTS TO \$27,200 AND ONLY TEN GRANTS. (I ASSUME COSTS AMERICAN STAGS, INCLUDING CORAL SEA WEEK VISITOR, ARE SEPARATE.) ASIDE FROM PROBLEM (REF B) THAT AMBASSADOR HAS ALREADY EXTENDED ELEVEN INVITATIONS, I FEEL THIS PROGRAM IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO REALIZING US OBJECTIVES HERE.

2. SINCE DECEMBER 1973 WE ARE DEALING WITH A NEW AND DIFFERENT AUSTRALIA. THE NATIONALISTIC NEW LABOR GOVERNMENT IS STRESSING AUSTRALIAN IDENTITY AND INDEPENDENCE BY SYSTEMATICALLY DECOUPLING THE COUNTRY FROM MUCH OF ITS PREVIOUS INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICA. THE IV PROGRAM HELPS US MAINTAIN EFFECTIVELY A SENSE OF COMMON VALUES AND COMMON DESTINY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. OBVIOUSLY, FOR LANGUAGE REASONS AUSTRALIAN VISITORS BENEFIT MORE READILY AND MORE COMPLETELY THAN MOST OTHERS. WE HAD ACTUALLY HOPED TO EKE OUT A FEW ADDITIONAL GRANTS THIS YEAR RATHER THAN TAKE A CUT. WE HAVE AN ADDITIONAL NUMBER OF WELL-QUALIFIED, YOUNGER CANDIDATES WHOM WE ARE CONFIDENT WILL BE FUTURE LEADERS IN THEIR FIELDS.

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3. I KNOW YOU ARE FACED BY DIFFICULT BUDGETARY CHOICES, BUT I DO

HOPE YOU WILL TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE AUSTRALIA IV PROGRAM TO  
SEE IF WE MIGHT NOT INCREASE OUR GRANTS THIS YEAR OR AT LEAST  
MAINTAIN TWELVE. I EXPECT THAT AMBASSADOR GREEN WILL BE INTERESTED  
IN DISCUSSING THIS WITH YOU.

DECONTROL JANUARY 31, 1979.  
HARROP

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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